

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 A-01 OPR-02 /082 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4921

FAA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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RIO DE JANEIRO FOR FAA INFO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, ELAB, VE

SUBJECT: AIRLINE STRIKE CONTINUES, VIASA AND AVENSA PILOTS
RETURNING TO WORK BUT AEROPOSTAL PILOTS ARE HOLDING OUT.

REF: CARACAS 11468 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO AIRLINE OFFICIALS, FOLLOWING PERCENTAGES OF
PILOTS HAVE RETURNED TO WORK AS OF MONDAY MORNING, SEPT 27:
VIASA - 75 PERCENT, AVENSA - 60 PERCENT, AEROPOSTAL - 10 PERCENT.

2. ON SEPT 26, PRESIDENT PEREZ REITERATED HIS CALL FOR THE
PILOTS TO RETURN TO WORK FOLLOWING A MEETING HE HELD WITH CAPTAIN
PABLO PARDO, REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AIRLINE PILOTS (IFALP). IN ADDITION,
A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE IBEROAMERICAN ORGANIZATION OF PILOTS (OIP)
IS ALSO IN CARACAS. (LATE LAST WEEK, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS,
THE OIP ORDERED ITS 2,000 PILOTS TO REFUSE TO FLY TO VENEZUELA.

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THE PRESS STATES THAT THE OIP REQUEST IS BEING HONORED IN PART

WITH AEROMEXICO, AVIANCA, AEROLINEAS ARGENTINAS AND AIR PANAMA REFUSING TO FLY TO CARACAS.) PARDO TOLD REPORTERS SEPT 26 THAT HE HOPED FOR A SOLUTION SOON, GIVEN THE RECEPTIVITY EXPRESSED BY PEREZ AND THE CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE OF THE PILOTS. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE TOLD THE PILOTS THE SAME DAY THAT IFALP WILL GIVE ITS FULL MORAL AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT TO THE STRIKE.

3. COMMENT: SUPPORT FOR THE STRIKE AMONG VIASA AND AVENSA PILOTS APPEARS TO BE CRUMBLING, AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THESE TWO AIRLINES MAY BE BACK TO NEAR NORMAL SOON. THE AEROPOSTAL PILOTS, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THEIR POSITION THAT ALL PILOTS MUST BE REINSTATED BEFORE THEY RETURN TO WORK. IN ADDITION, THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE FIALP AND OIP MAY COMPLICATE AN ALREADY DIFFICULT SITUATION.
VAKY

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